

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00936 080839Z

17

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04

IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20

DOT-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-04

DRC-01 /220 W

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R 071750Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8114

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USUN NEW YORK 171

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0936

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, OCON, XN, XP, US, BU

SUBJECT: LOS: FISHERIES, ZONES, AND STRAITS

REF: A. STATE 118381; B. LIMA 4014

1. AMBASSADOR PRESENTED NOTE BASED ON REF A TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PETROV JUNE 7 IN PRESENCE OF AMBASSADOR ALEKSANDER YANKOV, BULGARIAN REP TO LOS CONF WHO IS IN SOFIA FOR CONSULTATION BEFORE GOING TO CARACAS. WE EXPLAINED THERE MAY BE DANGEROUS TENDENCY TO REGARD PROCEEDINGS IN HALIFAX AS INVOLVING ONLY HAGGLING OVER QUOTAS FOR YELLOWTAIL FLOUNDER AND OTHER COASTAL SPECIES, WHEREAS OUTCOME OF PRESENT MEETING COULD HAVE FATAL EFFECT ON US ABILITY TO HOLD THE LINE IN CARACAS AGAINST UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF ZONES, A MATTER IN WHICH US AND BULGARIAN

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00936 080839Z

INTEREST CLOSELY COINCIDE.

2. I EXPLAINED FURTHER THAT WHILE US ADMINISTRATION IS STRONGLY AGAINST UNILATERAL ESTABLISHMENT OF ECONOMIC JURISDICTIONS OVER AREAS OF THE HIGH SEAS, AND IS EXERTING ITSELF IN CONGRESS AGAINST SUCH MOVES AS EVIDENCED BY RECENT TESTIMONY OF FORMER UNDERSECRETARY RUSH, AN UNFAVORABLE OUTCOME AT HALIFAX WOULD STRENGTHEN FORCES IN OUR CONGRESS THAT FAVOR UNILATERAL ACTION. YANKOV HELPFULLY COMMENTED THAT WHILE EVENTUAL AGREEMENT (IN CARACAS) ON AN ECONOMIC ZONE MAY BE DESIRABLE, IT CLEARLY IS IN BULGARIAN INTEREST TO AVOID PUTTING US ADMINISTRATION IN POSITION WHERE IT MIGHT BE FORCED TO ACT UNILATERALLY.

3. THIS LED TO BROADER DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC ZONE CONCEPT. REFERRING TO HIS INFORMAL PAPER PRESENTED TO EVENSEN GROUP IN APRIL (REF B), YANKOV SAID THIS HAD BEEN PREPARED ON HIS PRIVATE INITIATIVE THOUGH "WITH KNOWLEDGE OF VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT AND OF THE SOVIET UNION". (NOTE THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH PARA 4 REF B.) PURPOSE WAS TO DRIVE WEDGE BETWEEN STRAITS STATES, WHICH ARE HOLDING THEMSELVES OUT AS CHAMPIONS OF LDC COASTAL STATES, AND THE GROUP OF 77 WHICH HOPEFULLY WOULD FIND CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH STRAITS STATES MORE OF A LIABILITY IF THE MARITIME POWERS SHOW TREND IN DIRECTION OF ACCOMMODATION ON ECONOMIC ZONE.

4. WITH REF TO HALIFAX MEETING, PETROV WAS NOT SURE BULGARIA IS REPRESENTED THERE BUT SAID HIS MINISTRY WOULD IN ANY CASE SEND MESSAGE TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY OTTAWA EITHER TO RELAY EXPRESSION OF ITS CONCERN AND GENERAL GUIDANCE TO ITS DELEGATE, OR DISPATCH SOMEONE TO HALIFAX WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO WORK TOWARD AN ACCOMMODATION. SINCE COORDINATION REQUIRED WITH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, INSTRUCTION WOULD PROBABLY GO OUT ONLY JUNE 8; BUT DEPUTY MINISTER GAVE IMPRESSION HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WIDER POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WOULD PREVAIL IN GOB OVER NARROW FISHERIES INTERESTS.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SOFIA 00936 080839Z

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